

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR,

Political, Commercial, and Literary Gazette.

VOL. IV.]

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1819.

[No. 146.

Published Daily, with the exception of Mondays,—and accompanied with occasional Engravings, illustrative of Antiquities, Science, and the Arts,—at a Subscription price of Eight Rupees per Month, and Half a Rupee for each Plate issued.

General Summary of News.

EUROPE.

There have been no recent arrivals from sea; and the end of March continues to be the latest date of the intelligence from Europe, brought out by the ships that touched at Madras.

A respite from the discussion of local topics, enables us to return with much pleasure to the series of European intelligence which had been partially interrupted, and in doing this, we follow the order of dates in going through the English Papers from which we have made the following selections:—

England.—Among the recent legal decisions, which have taken place in England, the following are worthy of particular notice:—

The clergy have not a power to alter the fees of the church according to pleasure.—Bequests made to the poor refer to poor not receiving alms.—Notes of bankrupts, purchased or received in payment subsequent to the date of the commission, are not available, either as a set off to the estate, or as proof under the commission.

In a Letter describing the effects generally produced by the association of our countrymen with the people in France, and vice versa, the following observations are given:

It may be very true, that Frenchmen of the lower orders entertain feelings of hostility and a desire of revenge against our whole nation; but we have reason to believe, that well-informed Frenchmen distinguish as we ourselves would think reasonable, and by no means hold us as a people responsible for the actions of our rulers, or the proceedings of those who are not the people's true representatives. The residence of the occupying armies in France, after the bustle of war had terminated, when Frenchmen and Englishmen had leisure to converse with each other as rational beings, has produced a great effect in destroying undue prejudices; and it is said, we believe truly, that the Russian officers carried home with them from France, political information and opinions concerning the real interest of nations, which in their own country they would not have acquired in half a century. It is this light dispelling darkness, this progress of the mind in the acquisition of knowledge, that will one day bring about a great and salutary change in the Governments of Europe; and from Europe, probably over all the Eastern Hemisphere.

The Committee for the encouragement of Industry and Reduction of Poor's Rates have, by a Circular, submitted to the Members of both Houses of Parliament the sum of the results deduced from the Communications submitted to the Committee by Peers, Commoners, Agriculturists, and other competent persons engaged in trade and manufactures; from which the following facts appear to be fully ascertained:—1st. That an eminent mean of improving the condition of the labouring class and diminishing pauperism, would be to afford labouring poor, small portions of land on easy terms—2dly. That this practice pro-

motes industry; furnishes employment to the rising race; prevents a dependence on parish aid; is most favourable to morality: and prevents lesser offences, tending to greater crimes.—3dly. That it has in some districts operated to the keeping down, in others almost to the utter extinction, of poor's rates.

A clause has been introduced into the Marine Mutiny Bill now in Parliament, "to render Captains in the Marines liable to take Parish Apprentices, as well as Captains in the Army."

The Bill for preventing bribery and corruption in the future Elections for the Borough of Penryn, admits the Freeholders of the adjoining Hundreds of Penwith and Kirriar to a right of voting.

Mr. Protheroe, M. P. for Bristol, finding he has to pay the expences of the Election contest for that city, contrary to the express understanding on which he came forward, honestly and independently tells the electors, "that his connexion with the City of Bristol will terminate at the expiration of the period for which he thus purchases the honor of representing it."

Among the Petitions lately presented to the House of Commons, is one from the Labourers in Husbandry of the country of Worcester; praying, "that some means might be adopted to enable them to live by their labour, and thus prevent their deriving their bread from the alms of a parish."

In the case of Lady Emily Vane Tempest tried on the 30th of March. Sir A. Piggott moved the Court to remove all restraint with respect to the proposed marriage of this Lady with Lord Stewart, and that the marriage might be allowed to take place as soon as the necessary deeds were prepared. Mr. Martin, for Mrs. Taylor, said he had no instructions to oppose the motion. The Lord Chancellor said, "Sir Arthur, take your motion."

Another Paper says,—The Lord Chancellor has given a final judgment in the interesting case of the marriage of Lord Stewart to Miss Tempest, to the following effect, viz.—"That his Lordship did not see any thing in the new petition of Mrs. Taylor that ought to make him change his former opinion, which confirmed the Master's report, that it was a fit and proper marriage for the infant—Petition dismissed.

An anecdote is given of some of the items of expenditure of the public money, which will excite some surprise; and we think the recommendation that follows the recital deserves attention.

In the account of the *extraordinary expences* of the Civil List for the last year, presented to the House of Commons, there are four items amounting to 22,500*l.* paid to Messrs. Rundell and Bridge for *Gold Snuff Boxes* presented to Foreign Ministers! —a sum more than equal to the whole expence of the American Government for their Embassies to all the Courts of Europe. There are several other items of *sums of money* paid to other *foreigners*, who did us the honor to visit the British Court, particularly 1,200*l.* to three German Barons, attendants on the Prince of Homburg, and 500*l.* by way of *viaticum*, to the Prince Castelcicala, upon his taking leave in the character

of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of the Two Sicilies!—Why do they not adopt the economical plan of the East India Company? They make their officers and servants who receive presents in return to lodge them in the Company's Stores on their return, and thus they have the *quid pro quo*.

The Band of Music of the sitting Members for Chester at the last Election cost 16,000!. several of the gentlemen who composed this political orchestra being voters!

A very general notion is entertained, that more suicides are committed in England than in other countries. The late publication of Mr. Kampitz, of Berlin, founded on official Returns, in the towns of Prussia, proves the contrary; in one town the suicides in 1817 amounted to one in every 62 of the inhabitants.

We were not before aware that magistrates had the power of punishing persons for aspiring beyond their sphere of life, or entering into the amusements of their superiors, unless these were prohibited by law, or supported by ill-gotten funds. The following paragraph from a provincial Paper seems however to prove the contrary. It stands thus—

High Life below Stairs.—The following copy of a card of invitation was lately addressed to "Mr. Dalbiac's Servants, Buckingham Hill, Sussex."

1818.—The favour of your Company is requested to a Ball and Card Party, at the King's Head Inn, Uckfield, on Monday, the 28th Dec. by your humble Servant, J. HARTLEY.

The Uckfield Magistrates summoned Mr. Hartley before them, and fined him forty shillings!

Two very barbarous and brutal acts are attributed to Englishmen, such as we should hardly have thought were to be found among the lowest classes of a people, renowned for their love of what is termed fair-play, and for disdaining the common acts of treachery in fighting, with which they so constantly reproach foreigners. The paragraphs are as follows:

D. Donovan was found guilty of biting off the nose of M. Donovan in a fight which they had, and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, the first fortnight in solitary confinement.

J. J. Wakeman was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, having been found guilty of seizing R. Cotton by the throat, and forcing out his tongue, half of which he bit off, and next day bragged of having eaten.

ASIA.

In our Journal of yesterday, the word *Capture* was made use of instead of *Restoration*, in announcing the fact of the Dutch having taken possession of Padang. Though the history of this place and of the disputes that have been agitated regarding it, must be too familiar to our readers to render any misconception likely on the subject, yet we have thought it worth while to correct this error of wording. The sentence in which the fact is announced is plain enough, and speaks for itself.

Padang was, with all the other Dutch possessions in that quarter, to have been restored to them long ago under the promises of the Treaty for the restoration of their eastern settlements and colonies to the Netherlands Government; but the measures of Sir Stamford Raffles, which we have before detailed, went to the retention of this place as an exception to the general order; and from the voluminous official correspondence that has been published on this subject, it appears Sir Stamford had gone the length of declaring to the Dutch Commissioner, that he would not restore Padang until Palembang was given up to the English, or something to that effect.

We understand that so long ago even as the year 1817, orders were dispatched from this Government to restore Padang to such Dutch Officers as might apply for the restoration under

due authority; but the want of troops to resume their charge, which impeded even their taking possession of the more important settlement of Malacca, until long after the period when they might have entered it, if they had been prepared, prevented their resuming charge of Padang also.

The disputes between Sir Stamford Raffles and the Dutch Authorities subsequent to this, led, as our readers will remember, to its retention by him; but now it appears that by a second order, still posterior to this, it has been restored to its original possessors.

The part of the intelligence on which we laid most stress, was that which we still deem of the greatest importance, namely, the discouragement given to the British Trade in that quarter by the raising the duties on all exports and imports to double their former amount.

While we are on this subject, we may mention a report that we have heard of Sir Stamford Raffles intending to proceed on a visit to Batavia, from Singapore, in which Mr. Blunt was to accompany him; as well as another rumour, that there was an idea of abandoning Fort Marlborough as the seat of Government, and transferring it to Singapore.

Catholic Question, Rights of the People, and Liberty of the Press.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

At no great distance of time we shall probably receive very interesting reports from home, of Parliamentary Debates on the Catholic Question. I have been lately reading a Speech on that subject, spoken in May 1807, by Dr. Valpy, in the Town Hall at Reading; and the subjoined extracts from the notes which are added to it, may not, perhaps, be unacceptable at this time:

"But Lord Sidmouth's services to the liberties of his country are not so generally known. He has had the merit of uniting a support of the Royal prerogative with an attention to the rights of the people. Like Nerva, *res olim dissociabiles miscuit, principatum ac liberatem.* (Tacit: Jul. Agric. 3) One instance I witnessed, and cannot omit. In the year 1798, a bill was brought into Parliament, subjecting the printers, publishers, editors, and proprietors of Newspapers to a severe and summary punishment from the hand of Government. It is indeed probable, and candor will cherish the idea, that the mover of it himself was not aware of the extent of the danger. Had it passed into a law, the public press would have been at the mercy of the Administration, and the existence of Newspapers would have been as precarious as it is in France (1807). It was in vain that the friends of the liberty of the press in the House of Commons remonstrated. Lord Sidmouth alone preserved it. He clearly saw that the measure in contemplation would only increase the evils which it professed to remedy,—that the editorship and proprietorship of Newspapers would be confined to those persons who set no estimation on their public character or personal liberty,—and that the bill 'went far beyond the ends of substantial justice, and conferred a power which no Administration ought to possess.' He exerted his influence with the proposer of it, and obtained a modification which rendered it consistent with constitutional freedom."

In the course of his Speech, Dr. Valpy observed that—"the mildness of conciliation will soften animosity, and dissolve inveterate antipathies; but opposition will only exasperate prejudice, and rouse all the furies of resistance and rebellion."

On this passage is the following note:—"The sentiments of a most honorable character may be here properly introduced, as delivered in Parliament. 'Lord Moira reprobated the conduct of the Executive Government, which was repugnant to

the feelings of the people of Ireland, inconsistent with the character of the people of England, and highly injurious to the real interests of both countries. Men have a right to be well and justly governed; and, when they feel themselves aggrieved, have a right to state their complaints, and to call for redress with firmness;—to accuse them of ingratitude for thus complaining, was the most provoking petulance as well as injustice. He had stated—not casual excesses, or accidental abuses,—not what he had loosely heard of, but what himself had witnessed,—a constant uniform procedure of impolitic Government in that part of the country to which he had alluded. If these things were true, and true he knew them to be;—if their Lordships knew them, and now they did know them,—what excuse would they have if, in the hour of peril, the people of Ireland should refuse to support the Government? It was not the resources that he dreaded; it was not the want of men that he apprehended; it was the want of affection;—that was the object of his fear. Without that affection, we might call in vain for union in all parts of the Empire, and for a vigorous exertion against the common enemy;—without conciliatory measures, that affection would never arise.”—(Parliamentary Debates, Nov. 22, 1797.)

I send you this last extract, Mr. Editor, not solely on account of its being apposite to the expected discussions on the Catholic Question, but as illustrative of the striking and beautiful consistency of the sentiments and opinions of the illustrious and magnanimous Nobleman adverted to, as we hear and feel them uttered even at this present day here in Calcutta, with those which were maintained and publicly expressed by His Lordship, two and twenty years ago.

I remain, Sir,

Your's obediently,

Chowringhee, July 26, 1819.

SCRAP.

Post Office Partialities.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

As you have already so very praiseworthy detected and exposed several abuses in the Post Office Department, I hope you will pardon me for applying for your counsel in the following case connected with that establishment.

Not a 100 miles hence, a person had occasion to send a watch to Calcutta, to be repaired. It was tendered at the Post Office, enclosed and secured in a round tin-box, for the purpose of transmission by Dawk Bangy, but was refused to be received by the Post Master, with a notification that watches and other valuables were forbidden to be sent by that conveyance. The gentleman being told by a friend that he had sent his watch to Calcutta only a few weeks before, and had received it back again by the same conveyance; he, for the third time, tendered it at the Post Office, with the words “of no value” written above the address. It was again refused, with no further notice than that it would not be received.

As it was well known to him, and indeed to every one, that valuables of all kinds, from diamond tiaras to silver forks and spoons, were continually travelling to and from Calcutta by Dawk Bangy, he was at a loss to comprehend why his watch was refused to be sent, when from its superscription the Post Office was exonerated from all responsibility in the event of its loss; but experiencing very considerable inconvenience from the want of it, he resolved to offer it in another form. It was therefore packed up in a small square box, bearing exactly the same address as it had in its former shape.

Being at a friend's house, he asked him the favor of letting one of his chuprassies carry it to the Post Office. It was accordingly so done; but it being observed there, that the super-

scription was the same, and in the same hand writing as the former exceptionable package, the man was interrogated very closely, whether it was the property of the gentleman in question or not; and he saying that he did not really know but that he had got it from his master, it was received, a receipt given, and it is to be hoped was safely transmitted to its destination.

I wish to know therefore, from any one who may undertake to defend this conduct, through your impartial and independent Journal, whether a public Institution, such as the Post Office, is warranted in shewing any partiality in the discharge of its functions to one individual, more than to another. I have always understood that this establishment was for the convenience of the public service and of the community at large, as well for the emolument of the state, and that it was upon no account to be conducted by the caprice of a Post Master General or his Deputies, but upon Rules and Regulations well known and understood and administered with the strictest impartiality.

I am your obedient servant,

Benares, July 14, 1819.

O. P.

A Seaman's Sentiments.

To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.

Sir,

I cannot pass unnoticed the arrogant sarcasm you have thrown on the Commanders of this Port, in your Paper of the 26th instant.

Cloaked in a fallacious robe, you attack the Editor of the Journal; but as you boast that you are intimately acquainted with our grievances, why did you not, as the Guardian of our rights, stand forward to contest them. No, you meekly surrendered; and now, envious of our success, you dart your venom on the public-spirited individual who has outstripped you.

Your attack displays no greatness of mind, but the imbecility of human nature. Is it that you feel your interest engaged to oppose us—as a tacit compliance might be thought to allow too easy a triumph to your rival?

We feel proud in finding, in him, an Editor who will espouse the cause of the injured, who will assist us in an endeavour to regain our rights, and exert his talents in exposing the abuses of an Establishment founded for the public benefit, on a system which promised to extend its aid on every side; but which grants no facility, affords no relief, diffuses no satisfaction, yields no benefit, nor remedies any of the evils so loudly complained of by the projector of it at the outset.

These are the sentiments of a numerous body of respectable Commanders, who can substantiate what they affirm; and who tell you boldly that if you are acquainted with every stage of the proceedings of the Office, as you affirm, you ought to have aided the Editor of the Journal in exposing its abuses, rather than have sneered at his manly exertions in the cause of justice, equity, and truth; unless it is that since you have been honored by the notice of such a writer, as admitting you to the privileges of fair and equal contest, you look down on your former comrades and brother seamen as fit objects for oppression.

In the hope that this distinction will not, by its effulgence, entirely dazzle or destroy your intellect; but that your labours, if not public-spirited, may prove more profitable than that of the deserving Commanders whom you so faithlessly abandon to the yoke of the Marine Registry Office,

I subscribe myself, on behalf of the Commanders,

Your's, &c.

A BRITISH SEAMAN,
AN OWNER, AND COMMANDER.

Calcutta, July 27.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

TRANSPORTATION OF CONVICTS.

Mr. BENNET, in pursuance of a notice which he had given on a former occasion, and in conformity with the opinions and wishes of many most respectable classes of society, rose to claim the attention of the House to a subject that well deserved it. He could not conceive how it could be more beneficially directed than to the consideration of a system of punishment, involving in its application so much uncertainty and variety. It was with some surprise he had learned that his motion for a Committee of Inquiry was to be opposed, and opposed merely on the pretence that it was included in the Noble Lord's notice. If the result of the Noble Lord's motion respecting the state of gaols should be nothing more than the circulation of interrogatories, according to pre-established form, he would venture to predict, that no satisfactory information would be obtained. To justify this opinion, he would refer to the accounts received in answer to such interrogatories of the gaols in Scotland, and ask the House to contrast them with the statements communicated in the valuable work of Mr. Gurney. Another reason for opposing his motion was, as he understood, that two Reports of a former Committee on Penitentiary Houses, and on the state of the Hulks, had been already before the House. Some of the recommendations of that Committee had undoubtedly been carried into effect, whilst others had been wholly disregarded. Not less a number than 901 persons had been transported to Botany Bay in 1817, notwithstanding those recommendations. The only excuse for such a proceeding that he had yet heard of was, that the prisoners preferred this lot to confinement in a penitentiary, or to labour on the hulks; but it was surely not a sufficient ground for inflicting a punishment second only to death in the estimation of the law, that it was the choice of the criminal himself. He knew with what difficulty the House could be brought to attend to figures; but he was in the present instance, compelled to have recourse to them. The number employed on the hulks had rapidly increased during the three last years, being, in the year 1816, 1,715; in the year 1817, 2,186; and in the year 1818, 2,480. [Here the Hon. Member entered into a statement of the numbers transported, and for what term, during the same period, with a rapidity and indistinctness of utterance, which, combined with the hum of private conversation in the House, baffled our most pointed attention.]—It was certain, that the condition of the hulks had, since the Report of the last Committee was made, been materially improved; they were no longer the same depositories of disease as they had been. Still, however, their existed great faults, and the chief of them was, the entire want of classification. Old and young offenders were placed together; no distinction was made between the poacher, the deserter, and the bigamist. Although the blame rested immediately with Mr. Capper, the principal officer in that department, it should be recollect, that Mr. Capper was but the instrument of Lord Sidmouth. Many of these prisoners were boys between 16 and 17 years of age, a time of life when the passions were most lively, and the heart most flexible. At this age it was that they were shut out from the means of reformation, and associated with veterans in iniquity. What was this but to sow the seeds of future crimes? It would be easy to prove, by an examination of the returns, that crimes were accordingly increasing, and that the punishment and the expense attending that increase were in the same proportion. The Report of the Committee had indicated that great diminution of expense would arise from the system of penitentiaries. The latest accounts from New South Wales represented that every thing went on in its former course; and that those who were newly arrived, heaped benedictions on the heads of those who had been instrumental in lessening the pains and hardships of their voyage. With reference to the convict ship Baring, to which he had alluded on a former night, when his statements were in some degree doubted, he could only observe, that he had merely said what he believed to be true, and what he believed he had personally seen.—His statement had been contradicted, on the authority of a calculation, which, for one, he was not able to understand. The effect was, however, intended to show that four persons only occupied a birth. He had made every inquiry which could, as he apprehended, be useful to the just understanding of the state of convicts on their passage, and he would pledge himself to the assertion, that when examined it would be found that nothing short of moral ruin could arise from the manner in which they were treated,

and confined together. Let the House figure to itself 200 or 300 human beings stowed down in the hold of a transport, for so many hours every day, and during so long a voyage. He had conversed with various officers who had sailed in them, and all of whom were unanimous in declaring that a scene of greater misery, filth, and horror, could scarcely be imagined; that the noxious vapours were so intolerable as to prevent them from going below, and that the distress in the warm latitudes was extreme. Endless evidence might be found to shew that the whole period of the voyage was passed, if not in torture, in every species of that licentiousness which might be expected to prevail in the absence of all employment and of all instruction, and where the sole object was to get rid of the present hour. Under the present system, the punishment, in addition to the bodily suffering which it caused, involved in its immediate consequences moral degradation and mental misery. If he should be told that these were incidents inseparable from that system, his answer was that no argument could be stronger for abolishing it. The Noble Lord might say, that great good had already resulted to the colony of New South Wales, by adopting the recommendation of a Committee which sat some years ago. But the state of that colony still required investigation: it had cost since its foundation in the year 1788, a sum of 4,000,000^l, and the annual expense was still increasing. In the year 1797 it was 86,400^l, in 1811 it amounted to 116,707^l, in 1815 it had advanced to 198,466^l, and in 1817 it was 220,130^l. He was aware that these accounts included incidental expenses; but the general increase was incontrovertible; and he would maintain, that no example could be produced of a greater sacrifice of human happiness, or a greater misapplication of pecuniary means. The defects in the system of governing the colony were numerous. In the first place, the Governor regulated the price of all labour, and it was evident that such an arrangement must be attended with many hardships, both to the labourer and his employer. Another subject of complaint was, that under the present system, the Governor opened and shut the stores at his own pleasure. The consequence was, that frequently when traders came for cargoes, they found the stores shut; and if they were unwilling to waste their time in waiting till it might be the pleasure of the Governor to open them, they had no alternative but to go away, without accomplishing their object; and if they should go away under the persuasion that the ports would continue shut for some time, it might happen that they would be opened the very day after their departure. Let the House conceive the colonists sending down provisions, and in consequence of finding the stores shut, obliged to sell them at a much lower price than they had been warranted to calculate on before their arrival; and the persons who had bought those provisions at a reduced price, perhaps lodging them in the stores the very next day. Such a mode of proceeding, it was evident, must be attended with great losses to individuals, and ultimately with ruin to the colony. A few years ago (the Honorable Gentleman mentioned the year, but in so inarticulate a manner that he could not be heard in the gallery,) the crops were so abundant, that the victuallers could not find a market for their grain; but no advantage had been taken of this circumstance by the Governor. What had been the consequence? A short time after, when grain was wanted by the Government, they were obliged to buy wheat at 16s. per bushel, which, but for this neglect, they might have bought for 9s. Another subject of complaint was, that by the regulations which had been introduced by the Government, the price of beef had been materially affected and the interests of the agriculturist injured. The country, in his opinion, ought to be considered an agricultural, and not a pastoral country, although its sheep produced wool superior to Spanish, and equal to Saxon. The next point to which he would direct the attention of the House, was the manner in which justice was administered in the country. The last Committee, in 1812, had recommended the introduction of trial by jury into this colony. Attached as he was to that noble institution, he would not say, at present, that juries ought to be introduced into New South Wales; but he wished to hear the opinions of those who advocated, and of those who objected, to such a measure, stated openly, (*hear*), and let Parliament judge. Another subject intimately connected with the administration of justice was the appointment of Magistrates. It was known that two attorneys, of the name of Laud and Johnson, who had been transported to New South Wales, had been appointed magistrates by the governor. In a publication which he (Mr. Bennet) had given to the world some time ago, he had mentioned that the person [we could not hear his name] whom the governor had appointed to the office of surgeon-general, had been sent as a convict from this country. He learned, however, that he had been misinformed on this subject,

and that the gentleman whom he had mentioned was not a convict; and, as the only reparation which he could make to him, he had stopped the circulation of the pamphlet, because he thought it might be calculated to do him injury. No person living was so little inclined as he was to injure the character of any man; and he accordingly took this public manner of correcting the error which he had committed unintentionally. But, to resume, he thought the fountain of justice ought to be pure, and that no convict should be appointed to a judicial office. He would say, that these appointments were improper, and that it was the duty of the Noble Lord (Bathurst) at the head of the Colonial Department to reprimand the governor for so gross an outrage on propriety and justice. This Laird, to whom he had alluded, he understood to be an auctioneer; and, according to the custom of that country, as soon as he came down from the seat of justice, he got into a cart and sold blankets. (*A laugh.*) This he conceived to be one of the most indecent acts that could possibly be exhibited. Convicts were sent from this country to New South Wales, in the hope that during the period of their banishment their vicious habits might be reformed; but the number of capital convictions which took place in that country, proved how unlikely it was that this hope would ever be realized under the present system. He had no other means of ascertaining the number of convictions than by referring to the Gazettes, and he found there that no fewer than 27 persons, out of a population of 20,000, had been capitally convicted in two sessions. Here the number of convictions was much greater, in proportion to the population, than in this country. In Warwickshire, where the assizes were the heaviest in the kingdom the proportion between the number of capital convictions in the course of six months, and the population was 1 to 8,000; and in Yorkshire, only 1 to 40,000. In short, it was impossible not to discover that there never was a country in which there was the same proportion of executions as in New South Wales. With regard to the power of inflicting punishments, he regretted extremely that the Act placed that power in the hands of the Governor. How this power was used, the House might judge, when he informed them, that the Governor ordered three men to be publicly flogged, for going through a hole in a wall, into what he called his park. Of this arbitrary act, there was but one opinion throughout all the colony. One of these persons was a free man, an artist of great ingenuity, and the inventor of a machine by which Government had put 10,000*l.* into their pockets. He would recommend this machine to the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite. Such was the power of passion, that the Governor ordered 45 lashes to be inflicted by the public executioner on this free man, for so trifling an offence. He understood, indeed, that this person intended to institute a prosecution as soon as he returned home. When the Governor had a right to inflict 500 lashes on an offender, he was not acting on the laws of England, but on the laws of a colony. He was not making a statement without authority: he could prove the fact by the magistrate who had remonstrated against it. If the Governor had the good fortune to have had a council, this could never have occurred more than once: and why was it thought proper to put the lives and property of 20,000 Englishmen into the power of one man, without a council? The subject of the taxes levied in this colony was also well worthy of attention. He knew the argument would hold, that money might be levied in a conquered colony; but he was ready to meet any man on that ground, and to show, that New South Wales was not a conquered colony. The Government at present levied taxes to the amount of 20,000*l.* a year, and he could see no reason why they might not as well impose assessed taxes. In this matter Parliament should interfere, and not allow its privilege to be encroached on. Parliament, indeed, could give the Crown the power of levying taxes, but the Crown had no such power without the permission of Parliament. He considered this an important question for the consideration of the House. The next subject to which he should direct their attention was the state of religious and moral education in this colony. The Honourable Gentleman then read extracts of letters from Mr. Marsden, Chaplain-General of New South Wales in which it was stated, that the quantity of vicious matter sent out, could not be corrected; that the young men preferred living unmarried; that most of the children were unbaptized; and that the only appearance of religion was the custom of being marched to church on Sunday. A Catholic clergyman had gone out voluntarily from Ireland, with the view of instructing convicts of that persuasion. Though he (Mr. Bennet) was no friend to the Catholic religion, yet he had no doubt that good morals under forty religions was better than immorality under one. This clergyman went from house to house, and exerted himself in the most laudable manner in promoting the comfort and correcting the morale-

of the people. But the governor thought proper to shut him up in gaol, and afterwards sent him home. He hoped the government would take care that in future proper religious instruction be given to the Catholics. Another subject which demanded inquiry was, the instruction of children. It appeared at present, that out of 4,000 children, only 1,000 had received any sort of moral or religious education. There were in some places no churches and no clergymen, nor were any attempts made to better their situation in that respect. He had been told, that at Sidney only 170 persons went regularly to church; and that of all the women in New South Wales, 400 only had been known to go to church. He conceived, that in any country, whether Catholic or Protestant, it was a proof of the want of religion when the proportion of women who attended church was so small. In 1808, Mr. Marsden wrote home to the predecessor of the Noble Lord now at the head of the Colonial Department, representing the moral depravity which prevailed in the colony. The women, after having been employed during the day, were turned out at night, and obliged to live on the wages of prostitution. Would the House believe that this continued to be the case till the 21st of March, 1818, when a house was built at Sidney for the reception of these miserable females? Mr. Marsden after describing the sufferings of the women, said—"In 1808 I made these complaints; but now, after a lapse of seven years [the letter which the Hon. Gentleman read was dated in 1815], no improvement whatever has taken place. The male convicts are plundered for support to these wretched females; not a sheep or hog, not a cabbage or potatoe, but they are liable to be robbed of." He believed the same might be said of the males; for there was hardly a night but crimes were committed at which even people in London would be startled. That this should be so, was not wonderful; for, on looking over the lists, he found that the governor licensed public houses, to the number of 52. Many of these were infamous brothels; and one in particular, called Oxford Bob, was a notorious receptacle for stolen goods. With these facts before them, was it not an object worthy of the attention of the House, to consider how a colony on the other side the globe was administered! But this was not all. He understood it was customary for the governor to give tickets to persons who had come out with their pockets filled by the crimes which they had committed in England; thus authorizing them to open shops, to be furnished by those very crimes for which they had been transported. He conceived that the colony, if well regulated, was calculated to become very profitable to this country. He knew a Mr. M'Arthur, who had introduced sheep-farming on an extensive scale, and who had sent over a considerable quantity of wool, which had turned out very well. We understood the Hon. Gentleman to say, that the governor, or those who were intrusted with the disposal of the convicts on their arrival, were not attentive to the applications which were made to them by the settlers. In one case, an application had been made for three agriculturists, and of the three persons sent, two were tailors, and the third a London pickpocket. (*A laugh.*) The Honourable Gentleman then entered into a comparative state of the expenses of penitentiaries in this country, and transportation to Botany Bay. He could name a penitentiary where there were from 700 to 800 convicts, at an expense between 40,000*l.* and 50,000*l.* The convicts transported to New South Wales were proved by the accounts to be far more expensive. It was then a question deserving the greatest consideration, whether the youths of the country were to be thus sent out of it. Was it the object to reduce our population by transporting all who became liable to that punishment? But if the object was to support the colonies, let industrious settlers, persons acquainted with agriculture, be encouraged. When he had brought under the consideration of the House, the crowded state of our gaols, and the wants of the prisoners, he was sneeringly asked whether he would have Turkey carpets for them, and have them supplied with coffee and chocolate. He should probably, in like manner, be now asked whether he wished to abolish all punishment. So far, however, was he from being an enemy to punishment, that he was really a friend to punishment; but his intention was to make punishment wise, to make punishment discreet, to make punishment useful. Transportation he believed to be the choice of many convicts; but of this he was sure, that there could not be a greater error upon this subject than to consider example the great thing; the real check upon punishment was facility of detection. Facility of detection would do more good than all the rigour which Ministers could introduce into the statute-book. He asked pardon of the House for having so long trespassed on their indulgence, and concluded by moving, that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the system of transportation, and the state of the colony of New South Wales, and to report their opinion to the House.

Lord CASTLEREAGH began by stating, that in the observations he had to make, he should confine himself to the general scope and view of the motion, rather than enter on the details and particular grounds which the Hon. Gentleman had brought before them. He could assure the Hon. Gentleman, that he should feel great regret, and that the Hon. Gentleman would do him great injustice, if he should consider him an opponent of his motion, rather than an ally in its object. He joined issue with him, however, on the propriety of making this a subject of separate inquiry. The great object of a Committee to be so appointed was to inquire into the state of the gaols; and intimately connected with this was the inquiry into the system of transportation. He conceived, that to unite those subjects under one inquiry, was to occupy the time of the House more usefully than by dividing them into separate subjects of inquiry. Having stated that he was no enemy to the motion, he would now submit, that if this case was to be inquired into on insulated grounds, whether the inquiry would not be more proper in the Committee on gaols; but if it was to be conducted on great public principles, he submitted whether he was not pursuing the best ground for the Hon. Gentleman's own purpose, and could not claim to be joined with him. He would not shut his eyes against the defects in the system; he would not shut out this question; and he would readily concur in any further investigation which the question might require, and in the fullest examination of Gentlemen who happened to have had an opportunity of acquiring most knowledge on the subject. But this case, he would repeat, was not one that required separate inquiry. The Hon. Gentleman had made out no case for a separate inquiry. A Committee on the same subject had been moved for in 1812, by an Hon. and Learned Gentleman, who, he lamented, was no longer a Member of that House, whose attention was as vigilant, and whose mind was as competent for such inquiries, as any Gentleman's—he meant the late Sir Samuel Romilly. The result was, a Committee was instituted, and an elaborate Report was presented to the House, which he now held in his hand. He only wished to read the concluding paragraph, in order to shew what the view of the Learned Gentleman, and the able Gentlemen who assisted him, was of that question. The paragraph alluded to stated, that it appeared to the Committee that the subject had attracted more of the attention of Government than it had done for many years after the foundation of the Colony, and that from measures lately adopted, and the liberal views of the Governor, the best effects might be expected.—(Hear)—When a second Committee had been afterwards proposed, his Noble Friend at the head of the Colonial Department (Earl Bathurst) thought it better to have a Commission appointed for the purpose. The Commission was appointed, and his Noble Friend got an Hon. Gentleman, known he believed to the Hon. Mover, (Mr. Bennet assented), to go and inquire personally, whether better arrangements could be made practicable. Therefore it appeared that this question had not been abandoned. That there were individuals who could give superior information, he was aware; and he could assure the Hon. Gentleman he should have an opportunity of examining them. Government had not been supine on this subject, but possessed now better means of inquiry than the Hon. Gentleman's own means. As to the general question, since the Hon. Gentleman had been so candid in his avowal, he should meet him with equal candour. He knew the humanity of the Hon. Gentleman, and that all his exertions were prompted by humanity and an honest desire to relieve the miserable.—(Loud cheers.)—But from that very principle from which he acted, he received information in many cases with greater confidence than it deserved. He had accordingly that night handsomely acknowledged an injury he had done to a gentleman in consequence of misrepresentation. His Lordship always exercised much hesitation in believing the statements of the Hon. Gentleman, because, in the course of long experience in Parliament, he had found, that the information relied on was seldom correct. His object, too, was out of nature, and beyond the circumstances of the case. As an instance of the fallacious grounds which the Hon. Gentleman assumed, he would refer to his statement, that capital punishments were more numerous in Botany Bay than in Warwickshire. Was he astonished that capital punishments were more numerous in a country the one-third of whose inhabitants were convicts, than in a country of this moral, civilized, and he trusted, honest country? It was from the same mode of viewing objects that he was so dissatisfied with the regulations for transportation. His sensitive mind could not bear the state of the soldier or the sailor. His Lordship never found his situation pleasant in a packet boat during a storm, he did not say in the rough company of sailors or of soldiers, but even in the company of ladies. (Much laughter.) But unless they could contrive to have a pleasant trip by land, to

the Continent, he did not see how this inconvenience could be avoided. His Lordship considered this subject as a branch of a large system. He could not separate the question of the Honorable and Learned Gentleman on the second bench, (Sir James Mackintosh), from the question of the large, great, and comprehensive inquiry into the laws respecting punishments, and the various modes of carrying them into effect. The principle at issue this night, appeared to him to have been settled by the House on a former night, by their decision on the question between his Right Honourable Friend (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) and the Right Honourable Gentleman opposite (Mr. Tierney). The latter Right Hon. Gentleman had urged, that there were two questions before the House—the state of the Bank, and the state of the exchangers—and had pressed the best reasons that could be pressed upon the House, for appointing two separate Committees; yet the House, considering that the two inquiries were inseparable, had decided that one Committee was best. They had now, upon a very great and important question, a suggestion that not only two, but that three Committees should be appointed upon this one subject. He submitted, that if there was not an intellectual impossibility, there was even a physical impossibility for the House, who had so much business by the Bank-inquiry and other subjects, and particularly in this Session, when there were so many Election Committees, to find a sufficient number of individuals to provide materials for so many Committees. If one Committee embraced the whole connected inquiry, a suitable and sufficient Committee could be appointed; but if the question were divided into three separate inquiries sufficient Committees could not be found. He should be very much at a loss, if he were appointed on one of the Committees, unless he had the assistance of the Hon. Mover of this question, and of the Honourable and Learned Gentleman who had given notice of a motion for the 2d of March, on that Committee. It was absolutely necessary, therefore, that the House should make up their mind as to which was the best proposition of the three, on which to institute the inquiry. This proposition was the least fit for the purpose, because it was the narrowest view of the subject. Besides, the Committee of 1812 had given a full and satisfactory report, and the Government was now in progress with their inquiries upon the subject. If any of the three branches of inquiry should stand still, this ought to be that branch. But it was an important subject, and having formed an important and moral view of the subject, the Committee would inquire whether capital punishments would be diminished by any changes in the laws of transportation. He thought he had now stated fairly why the motion of the Hon. Gent. could not be made the basis of the general inquiry. He should now state why the motion of the Hon. and Learned Gent. was also unfit for that purpose. A future opportunity would occur for discussing this question; but he thought there would be no inconvenience if he now stated his views on the question. The object of the Hon. and Learned Gent. was, to inquire into the criminal laws of the country, and into the practice of colonization by convicts, in order to mitigate the extreme severity of those laws. His Lordship's object was to inquire into the state of the prisons. He did not mean to exclude the criminal law of the country from this inquiry, but the criminal law could not be inquired into with a view of mitigating its severity, without taking at the same time a view of the secondary resource for punishments, that should be abolished. Here his Lordship begged leave to make an observation upon the comparison of the Hon. Gentleman, between the number of capital punishments in Botany Bay and in some counties in this country. Capital punishments must be more frequent there, since they had no place for transportation, and no secondary resource. It was better to start the inquiry from a practical than from an abstract point. If it were started from a moral and abstract point, they would be constantly getting into questions of practice. It was unwise in any State, most of all in this country, to arraign before the public the existing criminal law, without presenting at the same time a remedial resource. By the course he proposed, they would have the whole view of the subject before them; they could see where the pressure of severity was excessive. They could see where relief could be afforded to human suffering by the diminution of crime, through the force of example; and they could ascertain what were the best remedies for the evils of the present system. He preferred his own motion, because the others diverged, while his rather concentrated the attention of Parliament. He was not prepared to say that the present motion was the most dangerous; he meant by dangerous, apt, by instituting an inquiry into evils, without a corresponding remedy, to create discontent and danger. He had himself taken the middle course; he proposed to inquire into the state of prisons and

punishments, and by that inquiry they would be naturally led to consider the various degrees of severity and the necessity of the severest punishments. The House knew that he was not for stifling inquiry, but that the fullest means of inquiry should be given. But he deprecated the lowering the wisest and the best system of jurisprudence which the world ever saw, in the eyes of the people, till Parliament should have provided a remedy. He would not oppose the motion, but he moved the previous question, conceiving that mode to be more respectful towards the Hon. Gentleman, as well as more consistent with his own real sentiments on the subject.

The previous question was then put from the chair.

Mr. WILBERFORCE rose, and after a few prefatory observations, which we did not hear, declared that he felt always disposed to resist the opinion of one who is willing to accede to one species of inquiry, and yet oppose it altogether.—(*Hear, hear, hear! from the Opposition.*)

Lord CASTLEREAGH here observed, that he could not suppose that the Hon. Gentleman wished to misrepresent him, and yet he really did not know how any one could misconceive him.

Mr. WILBERFORCE said he could not help his impressions.—(*Loud laughter.*) If he had come into that House without any information on the subject, he should have supposed, from the former part of his Lordship's speech, that he was for no inquiry; but the latter part drew the former part in, and professed a wish for inquiry.—(*Great cheering and laughter.*) If he had gone away after he had heard the former part of his speech, he should have supposed that no inquiry was thought necessary into this important, delicate, and certainly difficult subject. In the Noble Lord's speech, there had not one word been said of any attempt to promote the moral improvement of the country. Ought not a peculiar system of Police to have been adopted? Why were they denied the English Constitution, if not for the special purpose of applying a Police necessary in their situation, or conducive to their reformation? Undoubtedly it must be confessed, that for some time past this Colony had attracted too little attention. The war, and other subjects, had diverted the view of the country from a consideration of those establishments which ought never to be neglected; and thus, since 1812, no inquiry had been instituted into the state of a Colony essentially connected with the criminal jurisprudence of the country. The state of things was now very different. He could enter on the inquiry with a full certainty that it would command attention, and with the prospect that the results obtained would throw light on other questions in which he felt an interest. Considering this to be the case, he (Mr. Wilberforce) could not but feel surprised at the speech of his Noble Friend (Lord Castlereagh), which appeared made for the purpose rather of stifling than promoting inquiry. If the arguments used by his Noble Friend were to be decisive in this instance, the House would find that nothing had yet been done towards the objects which all professed to have in view, and that, like an old soldier, his Hon. Friend would have to "fight all his battles o'er again." The object of the motion of which his Hon. and Learned Friend (Sir J. Mackintosh) had given notice, was an inquiry into our criminal code, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the number of our criminal punishments ought to be diminished; but this was a subject quite sufficient of itself to occupy the attention of one Committee. One of the great evils of our present criminal jurisprudence was, that the nominal system was not the real one, and that we enacted laws, which, from their severity, we had not the heart to execute. The inquiry into the state of the inhabitants of New South Wales, and the effects of transportation on the morals and general condition of the persons sentenced to that colony, was certainly connected with the object of the motion alluded to, but was too extensive to form only a part of it. It might be carried on with the view of ascertaining whether a substitute might not be found in transportation, for many of the punishments which were now made capital; but in this view it was only one among several other substitutes. With this object, not only transportation, but the state of the gaols, the classification of prisoners, and many other subjects, would come before the Committee on the Criminal Laws, any one of which would nearly be sufficient for its investigation. On the state of the prisons we had not only the information of Mr. Howard to peruse, but a book that contained statements with which all ought to be acquainted, and reasonings to which most must yield. (*Hear, hear.*) That book had proved that prisoners might be employed for their reformation, and shewn that thus the necessity for capital punishments, which was created by an unchecked progress in crime, might be reduced. He (Mr. Wilberforce) was therefore surprised, considering the extensive field already marked out for the labours

of the Committee about to be proposed, that his Noble Friend (Lord Castlereagh) should propose to impose upon it, in addition, the present inquiry. Not only the gaols of this country, but the state of the gaols on the Continent, and in the United States of America, would come to be examined. But why should the investigation of this subject not be prosecuted separately from that into the state of the colony of New South Wales, which was perfectly distinct from it? (*Hear, hear.*) Were the same Committee to have these distinct and separate duties imposed upon them, their labours would neither terminate in any reasonable time, nor lead to any practical result. To undertake a limited part of the task, nothing would be a sufficient inducement but the feeling of an indispensable duty; and the labour, therefore, ought not to be rendered inefficient by being made too extensive. When the temptations to the commission of crimes were weighed—when the want of education was taken into the account—when it was considered that the boy, the child, who was doomed to capital punishment, it must happen that the laws could not be executed; that a merciful forbearance, proceeding from a fear of drawing down the infliction of too severe a vengeance, would be indulged; that the guilty would be frequently allowed to escape, and there would be a gambling in crime which would tend to promote its increase. This was a subject extensive enough for the inquiries of one Committee; and he therefore wished it to be separated from that proposed this night on the motion of his Honourable Friend. If, indeed, there was any disposition to probe the evil to the bottom, it could only be done by a separate and distinct investigation. He himself (Mr. Wilberforce) was possessed of information which would occupy for some time the labours of a Committee. The time was pressing for both subjects. Since the last inquiry into the state of New South Wales, in 1812, seven years had elapsed; and calculating that on an average 2000 persons had been transported annually, we had sent out since that time 14,000 individuals. Was it nothing, that, without any accurate knowledge of the state of society in that colony, or any strict inquiry into its means of improvement, we had increased its population by so many wretched convicts? His Honourable Friend (Mr. Bennet,) he (Mr. Wilberforce) knew, was accurate in his facts, as he had received his information from a man who was well acquainted with the subject, and whose veracity was above question—a man who acquired the admiration of all who knew his merits—a man who shone as a bright example in the moral world—who deserved the title of a moral hero—who had overcome difficulties for the amelioration of his species, in the most unfavourable circumstances, which would always enshrine his name to the friends of virtue and humanity. This individual (the Rev. Mr. Marsden) had said, that in transport vessels instances had occurred in which the convicts had only to choose between death and prostitution. Could any fact show in a stronger light the necessity of inquiry than this circumstance?—(*Hear.*) Such an inquiry should be pursued with zeal. If it were instituted unwillingly, or with apparent reluctance; if it were to be prosecuted with languor, or if it were followed merely to get quit of a disagreeable feeling, and if the work were done as if they did not wish to do it at all, the Committee would gain possession of no facts, could acquire no information. His Noble Friend had said, that a person was going out, for the purpose of taking a survey of the state of the colony, and making a report; and although he (Mr. Wilberforce) was willing to allow the merits of that individual, he could not agree in the propriety of waiting for two or three years till he returned with the information he had acquired. Considering the length of time necessary for this operation, and the acknowledged necessity for inquiry, he (Mr. W.) was surprised at the manner in which his Hon. Friend's motion was met. This was the first investigation which had been proposed since the peace, and his Noble Friend had met it with the previous question. What would be the consequence of this? Would not all those persons who saw that Government did not take up the business, think they would obtain its favour by refusing information; would they not—"for they were wise in their generation"—shelter themselves from examination by quoting the disposition of their patrons, and refuse to come forward with the detail of facts, when their interest appeared so manifestly connected with concealment? There was one view of the question which could not fail to command the attention of those who reflected for a moment on the consequences of the policy which we had for some time past been pursuing. We had formed in New South Wales a colony of eighteen thousand people, who were spreading themselves extensively in those regions. They had already sent settlers to South Zealand. Let the House consider what would be the effect produced among the rude inhabitants of that quarter of the world by the increase and extension of a race so much their superiors in civilization, if unreformed in

their moral condition. Nothing could more strongly show the necessity of taking the most effectual measures to secure that moral improvement which would enable them to establish order while they diffused knowledge. He (Mr. Wilberforce) would not detain the House longer; but would conclude by pressing on his Noble Friend the necessity of separate inquiry, to be instituted with a full determination to probe the subject to the bottom.

(*The great length of this Debate obliges us to postpone its conclusion to another Number.*)

Military.

*General Orders, by the Commander in Chief, Head-quarters, Calcutta
July 23, 1819.*

At a Native General Court Martial, held at Hussianabad on the 24th June 1819, Chundee Deen, alias Chundee Deen Patuck, Sepoy, was arraigned on the following charge:

"For having deserted from the 3d Battalion Company 1st Battalion 2d Regiment Native Infantry, on or about the 17th June 1818, and enlisting in the 1st Battalion 8th Regiment Native Infantry, from which Corps he voluntarily surrendered himself on the 1st June 1819."

Upon which charge the Court came to the following decision:

Finding and Sentence.—“The Court having maturely weighed the evidence in support of the prosecution, and from the confession of the prisoner, find him, Chandee Dean, alias Chundee Deen Patuck, guilty of the charge preferred against him, and do therefore, by virtue of the Articles of War, adjudge him to receive eight hundred (800) Lashes, with a cat-of-nine-tails on his bare back, at such time and place as His Excellency the Most Noble the Commander in Chief may be pleased to direct.”

Approved and confirmed, but consonantly to the recommendation of the Court, the Prisoner Chundee Deen, is pardoned.

(Signed) HASTINGS.

Head-quarters, Calcutta; July 24, 1819.

Cornet Dyke, lately promoted, is appointed to do duty with the Cavalry Depot at Cawnpore.

Ensigns Dunbar, Louis, George, Williams, and Poole, lately promoted, are appointed to do duty with the European Regiment at Dinapore. The whole of these Officers will proceed to their Stations along with the 2d Division of the 11th Light Dragoons, and under charge of Captain Shadwell, to whom they will report themselves immediately.

Assistant Surgeon Finlayson, of His Majesty's 8th Light Dragoons, now at Ceylon, is, at the request of His Excellency Sir Robert Brownrigg, attached to the Detachment of Bengal Troops serving on that Island from the 16th ultimo, and will continue to do duty in that Colony until his services can be dispensed with, when he will join his Regiment in Bengal.

Lieutenants Jones, Patch, and Campbell, now doing duty with the 1st Battalion 20th Regiment, are directed to proceed and join the Corps to which they are posted, as follows:

Lieutenant Jones to join the 1st Battalion 29th Regiment Native Infantry with the Nerbuddah Field Force.

Lieutenant Patch to join the 1st Battalion 5th Regiment Native Infantry at Goorgaon.

Lieutenant Campbell to join the 2d Battalion 11th Regiment Native Infantry at Cawnpore.

It being directed by General Orders of the 4th January 1817, that the “Coats in wear” of discharged or deceased Soldiers, are to be considered public property, and to be appropriated to the use of Recruits, and Pantaloons being now issued every alternate year, it is deemed proper to explain, that the description of Clothing last received by the Men, is that which is to be retained for the Recruits, whether it may be Coats or Pantaloons, the regulation in question not being intended to authorize the retention of two years Clothing.

It is further to be observed, that the rule above quoted does not include the Clothing of casualties by transfer; special directions concerning which will, when considered necessary, be given on each particular case.

Lieutenant Goldie, Adjutant of the Benares Levy, having delivered over the Drafts brought down for the Battalions in Bengal, will return to Benares by water, along with the Native Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Levy, who formed part of his Detachment.

J. NICOL, Adjt. Genl. of the Army.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The lines signed AMICUS, transmitted to the Office for insertion yesterday, will be returned on a Note being sent in the same hand-writing.

Printed at the Union Press, in Garstin's Buildings, near the Bankshall and the Exchange.

Domestic Occurrences.

BIRTHS.

- June 9. At Prince of Wales Island, the Lady of Lieutenant Archibald Dow, of the 19th N. I. of a Son.
28. At Bangalore, the Lady of Captain Benjamin Blake, of the 23d N. I. of a Daughter.

- July 14. At Muttra, the Lady of Captain W. Cunningham, Field Pay Master, of a Son.

DEATHS.

- June 21. At Secunderabad, Lieutenant W. Stanhope, of His Majesty's 30th Regiment.
24. At Itchapore, Captain Anderson, of the 1st N. I.
25. At Poonamallie, Brevet Captain Hewson, of His Majesty's 89th Regiment.
July 2. At Wallajahbad, of the Liver Complaint, Lieutenant and Adjutant M' Ewen, of His Majesty's Royal Scots.
5. At Wallajahbad, of the Cholera Morbus, Major J. S. Lynch, of His Majesty's Royal Scots.

Extratum.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I think it necessary to state to you, in behalf of my friend Mr. John Shavier, whose death you announced in your Journal of last Saturday, that he is still alive! and that the communication in question appears to me to have been sent to you for insertion by some Wag or other, evidently to cause mischief; which, however, I can assure him, it will be out of his power to effect.

By giving publicity to this, you will oblige, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

SENEX.

Calcutta, July 27.

Note.—The notice of the death of Mr. Shavier was sent in manuscript to the Office, and inserted on the general belief that it was accurate. We cannot sufficiently deprecate so abominable a practice as this of creating alarm by reports of sickness and even death, unfounded in fact, and answering no purpose, but the malicious one of creating a smile on some abandoned countenance at the misery and affliction that is seen in others. SENEX would have done better, however, we think, if he had given his real name and address, for he leaves us in the same way without any assurance or pledge for his accuracy—tho' to remove an error of the nature of the one in question, is a task that no honest man surely need be ashamed of.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

(None)

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

July. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
27 Calcutta	British	J. R. Stroyan	Liverpool
27 Edmonstone	British	T. Brewer	Mauritius

MADRAS ARRIVALS.

July. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From whence	Left
3 Reliance	British	M. Pike	Vizagapatam	June 20
7 St. Antonie	British	H. Turnbull	Pers. Gulph	June 20

MADRAS DEPARTURES.

July. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
3 Haldane	British	D. Wilson	Calcutta

Nautical Notices.

The Jane, Captain Williams, has put back, with the loss of her anchor, on account of bad weather.

The ships Malabar, Captain Aseough; Wanstead, Captain Richards; Medway, Captain Wight; Norfolk, Captain Edwards; all from Calcutta, reached the Downs on the 21st of March.

The Gilbert, from Bengal, for London, was spoken on the 10th of February, in lat. 46° 30' N. and lon. 25° W.